
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

FISHERY UPDATE



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Date: May 14, 2013
Time: 10:45 a.m.

PETERSBURG/WRANGELL HERRING UPDATE #17

The department conducted an aerial survey yesterday, May 13, of the Hobart Bay/Port Houghton area between 11:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The survey conditions were fair with overcast skies, intermittent rain, and winds from 10 to 15 mph.

Hobart Bay/Port Houghton

No schools or active herring spawn were observed during today's aerial survey. The number of marine mammals and bird activity has decreased and it appears that herring spawning is completed for the year. The majority of active spawn occurred on Friday, May 3, around the entrance to the Sanctuary. To date, 2.4 nm of herring spawn has been recorded in the Hobart Bay/Port Houghton area. Additional aerial surveys for herring have not been scheduled at this time and may not occur. Forecasts of mature spawning biomass for the 2013/2014 season will not be finalized until late this fall.

2013 Survey Herring Summary

Hobart Bay/Port Houghton

April 16	No herring activity, 71 sea lions, 2 whales, 100 scoters.
April 19	No herring activity, 102 sea lions, 550 scoters.
April 22	No herring activity, 81 sea lions, 1,500 scoters.
April 24	No herring activity, 31 sea lions.
April 27	No herring activity, 30 sea lions, 1,600 scoters.
April 30	No herring activity, 45 sea lions, 1,100 scoters.
May 2	¼ mile of active spawn, 85 sea lions, 1,550 scoters.
May 3	1.0 mile of active spawn, 117 sea lions, 2,250 scoters.
May 4	No herring activity, 27 sea lions, 5,500 scoters.
May 5	No herring activity, 32 sea lions, 5,500 scoters.
May 6	No herring activity, 28 sea lions, 5,500 scoters.
May 8	No herring activity, 13 sea lions, 11,200 scoters.
May 13	No herring activity, 3 sea lions, 1,500 scoters.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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